

Timely Tips for April Gardeners from Calloway's and Cornelius

April means "to open" or "opening", in allusion to it being the season when trees and flowers begin to "open". This is the month of rebirth and hope for the future. If April means spring to you; get out your gardening tools and get moving. Calloway's and Cornelius Nursery are fully stocked with all kinds of plants and products for every purpose for the itchy green thumb. Consider adding Native Plants to your landscape. Native plants tolerate our Texas Summer heat better than most, require less water, require less mowing, provide habitats for birds, butterflies and other wildlife, protect the soil and save on fertilizers and insecticides.

A successful garden begins with good soil. Organic material is important to the soil composition. It helps with drainage and increases the microbe population. Expanded shale is used to break up hard compacted clay soils. Top dress your flowerbeds and containers with organic mulches.

Hopefully you have your tomatoes, peppers, squash, and other warm season vegetables already planted; if not get them in the ground right away. To get the highest yields, make additions of fertilizer (called sidedressing) every couple of weeks, starting about a month after transplanting or seeding.

If your yard is too small for traditional garden plot, try gardening in containers. The bigger the container, the better! Container gardens need more attention since they dry out faster and need regular additions of fertilizer to compensate for the more frequent irrigation.

If you want to create a truly dynamic garden, inviting colorful guests like butterflies and hummingbirds is definitely the way to go. Butterflies like sunshine and plenty of space to fly around, so opt for a sunny, open spot. Both enjoy having some type of cover as a resting spot. Your garden should include some type of water feature as butterflies and hummingbirds often congregate around water.

St. Augustine and Bermuda lawns should be actively growing now; so it is a great time to apply fertilizer. Please consult your Calloway / Cornelius Nursery for the best fertilizer advice for your lawn. A correctly fertilized lawn now will better help your lawn to handle the Texas Summer Heat!

In-Store Garden Series

Saturday, April 4th at 10:15 am – *Lavish, Colorful, Stylish Shade Gardens*

Saturday, April 11th at 10:15 am – *Plant for Butterfly & Hummingbird Gardens*

Saturday, April 18th at 10:15 am – *Native Plants for Texas Gardens*

Saturday, April 25th at 10:15 am – *Easy Care Flowers, Top Picks from Proven Winners*

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